



K. Ireland.

TO THE

Right Hon^{ble} *****

My LORD,



YOU complain, that in all the Accounts I have given you of the late Struggles in this Kingdom, no Notice is taken of the Characters and private Views of the Leaders: With Design, my Lord, I recited only the Questions debated, that they might be judged from their own Merit, without Prejudice to the Persons of the Proposers or Opponents: I confess it is to be wished, that the Motive and the Action were always of a Piece; yet, whatever the Cause be, the single Goodness of the Act seems to me sufficient Reason for honest Men to unite in Support of it. It would be no difficult Task to mark the Ground of the Divisions here, and the Characters of the Actors; in both which may be seen much that is laudable, very much that is natural, not a little that is Blame-worthy: Unwillingness to resign a long-held Power is natural; to support it by Opposition to wrong

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Measures; laudable; to maintain it by fomenting groundless Divisions, the Result of Malice and cruel fierce Ambition. On the other Hand, to aim at Power is not less natural; to pursue it at the Expence of a Nation's Peace, blameable; but to refuse it when offered, is difficult, and the Lot of few.—I believe, my Lord, from the sole Views of Maintaining and Dispossessing arose the present Divisions in this Kingdom; from these a Kind of War was denounced, and the H—e of C——ns was the Ground pitched upon to try the Strength of the Combatants: Popularity was entirely on one Side, and Victory at last declared for the same; whether wisely, my Lord, or unwisely, your Lordship has not yet determined: Not long after, some who held Employments from the Crown, lost them; and others, who pursued Measures approved by the K— and his Council, were rewarded with them. All this might be expected from a P—ce who had Power left to displace, and the Authority of a Council to give Sanction to his Actions. It could not easily be supposed that a brave K—, so counselled, would continue the most profitable Appointments to Men who were said to be daring enough to think they could hold them in Despite of him: Yet, my Lord, it was supposed, and the Change was a Surprize to many. The Governor, grown daily more odious here, was accused of Misrepresentations on your Side: A Variety of Spirits were at work, openly some, others covertly; Spirits contrary as Light and Darkness acted in Concert, and drew the same Way,

Way, but with very different Views: Disquiets, that many Years had slept, were now awakened, and most extravagant Hopes conceived from Confusion: Murmurs grew louder and louder, till they reached the Throne. A P—ce attentive to the Welfare of his Subjects was necessarily disturbed; he had acted by Advice of his Council, but that Council might be deceived; his first Step was to change the Governor; to send a Nobleman to us of undoubted Integrity, and to whom no Objection could be made; to send him at a Time when Parliaments are not usually convened, at a Time when unembarrassed by Business he might look calmly into the Disposition of Parties, that such Measures might be taken as would tend to the Peace of the People, not derogating from the Honour of the Crown.—This was a Step becoming a Prince, a good Prince, who wished to act justly; and a wise one, who to act so desired just Information.

Here, my Lord, and I am sorry for the Cause, we shall once perfectly agree; the Conduct of the Patriots (for all of this Kingdom, from the Nobleman to the Peasant, are divided into two Classes, Courtiers and Patriots) was not consistent with their former Generosity: The new Governor met All with Chearfulness; and though the Generality received him with Compliments, and Assurance of Affection to his Majesty, as no Subjects are better affectioned to his Family, and the Principles that gave the Crown to the House of *Hanover*, yet some stood aloof, as if Peace and Harmony were un-

grateful to them ; Suspicions were daily raised by a few, and countenanced by the many : The Lord Lieu——t was told, that Law, Divinity, and the Sciences had all declared for the Patriots, and Hostilities were almost directly threatened, if one Step was taken that was not in their Favour ; The Gall of Invective was lavished on the late Governor, by way of Terror to the new ; History was ransacked for ambitious Priests and tyrannical Governors, and Exile or Death threatened to every *Verres* or *Strafford* : The Proceedings in the Case of the last mentioned were applauded as a Precedent ; Proceedings unwarranted by Reason or Law, urged by the Fears of a Faction in *England* who dreaded his Abilities, and the Resentment of a few here who had felt his imperious Nature, and magnified his Spots without regarding his Brightness : What Care to hand down the Prosecution of that great Man, whom his very Prosecutors applaud, as a laudable Act ; Measures which Men applaud, my Lord, I believe they would pursue ; the Rancour still subsists ; Comparisons are made of Men and Times, where no Vestige of Similitude can be found ; mean Insinuations are daily bandied about to foment Discontents, *fingunt simul creduntque* ; a Lust of raking into the Conduct, and of evil-interpreting every Measure, Action, and Word of Ministers is eagerly propagated, and a Spirit of Malevolence rides Post through the Kingdom in News-papers and Pamphlets.—It is not enough thus to persecute the late Governor and menace the new ; the new one must be at-

attacked. Not six Weeks ago the Nation trem-
 bled with Fear of an Invasion ; the Chief Go-
 vernor is sent to inspect the Condition of the
 Fortifications : What could his Majesty do
 more ? His immediate Representative is to in-
 spect them personally ; yet before he sets out, in
 one Column his Rout is described, and Words
 capable of an evil Meaning most impudently dis-
 tinguished by *Italic* Types, “ To-morrow he
 “ *lies* at this Place, and the following he *lies*
 “ at that Place :” In the next Column is re-
 cited a shameful Expedition of the Duke of
Ormond, made with Design to awe, cajole,
 and corrupt for an ensuing Election ; Misre-
 presentations are made to give Likeness to Cir-
 cumstances ; and all this before the Viceroy has
 stirred, or spoke one Word that could be inter-
 preted to the Disadvantage of this Kingdom,
 even while he is studying its Security and Quiet.
 Should the News Writer’s Suspicions prove true,
 it would not justify such Proceedings ; but I
 don’t attribute his Fears to his Foresight, but
 to his Passion ; *Difficile est tacere cum Doleas* :
 Disappointment makes selfish Men furious, and
 their own Madness destroys them. What, my
 Lord, can apologize for the Conduct I have
 described ? If I had your Lordship’s Ingenuity I
 should despair of a Vindication : To quarrel with
 a G——nor of distinguished Probity on his very
 landing, what is it but to quarrel with the K——
 himself ? What is it but a Declaration that no
 G——nor shall have Peace here but on their
 Terms ? He must sign their Proposal, or Slan-
 der and Calumny will instantly be let loose
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against him. A manly generous Spirit of Freedom is pleasing ; but when Causes of Liberty exceed all Bounds, and prove to be Matter of Faction, they change their Nature, and are no longer justifiable, however glossed over with Colour of Prudence and Patriotism. An honest Man depends on the Strength and Virtue of his Cause, and scorns Recourse to mean inflaming Arts, *Vir prudens advertit ad gressus suos ; stultus autem divertit ad dolos*. In Excuse it is said, that the Spirit may flag and their Party decay ; a lame and impudent Excuse, to suspect any Gentleman of such Meanness, as to quit his Party when the National Good is concerned. I fear, my Lord, these are the Cobweb Pretences of designing selfish Men, who gape for Employments, and will be gratified or inflame the Nation : I hope none of them will proceed so far as to give Cause to say of them what was once said of *Julius Cæsar* and his Party, *Eos ad evertendam Rempublicam sobrios accessisse*. They would have us think we lived in the Time of a *Richard* the Second or a *Charles* the First, when Prerogative laid an Iron Hand on the People ; surely they think it not themselves, though they believe it possible to make us think so : It is cruel, my Lord, to injure the Innocent, to impose on weak credulous Minds, and fill them with Discontents against a K—, under whose Reign his Dominions have been flourishing and happy. View this Island, and what Improvements in the Soil, in the Traffic, in the Manners, Civility, Liberal Sciences, and Manual Arts ; in no Period

riod was it happier; I hope a Spirit of Liberty will preserve and increase its Happiness; a licentious Spirit may destroy it: A Spirit of Liberty is active and vigilant, but not suspicious and scurrilous. Would Men employ their Talents in providing such wholesome sound Laws as would benefit this Country, and not injure *England*, as would restrain its Luxury and improve its Commerce, they would be well employed; while they study captious Questions, and Matters of Dissention only, they convince the World that the Dispute is only for the Power of a few, and give Occasion to say, *Misera Natio ubi multi sunt principes ejus*. Yet, my Lord, all who stile themselves Patriots are not of this Stamp, the Generality are more moderate, but their Silence is construed an Approbation of the Violence of the Few. I cannot avoid mentioning one, of noted Abilities, who being urged, as a Person aggrieved, to visit the Marquis, very generously said, that he could not think himself aggrieved, that his Majesty had given him a profitable Employment, and had thought fit to resume it, that he was grateful for what he had received, and could not complain that it was taken away: This, my Lord, was generous and manly; and were all truly grateful for what they have received from his Majesty's Goodness, his Deputy would be entitled at least to Civility; but the Humours of some Men are sharp and fierce, they delight in Bitterness and Reviling, and seem to adopt as a Maxim, *Audacter Calumniare semper aliquid hæret*.

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I have been the longer on this Head, to convince your Lordship, that I detest allike the Violence of a People and a Prince; give the Prince his Prerogative and the People their Privileges, but allow neither Tyranny in one, nor Licentiousness in the other, and a Nation will be happy; I am sure your Lordship will join me in praying that this Kingdom may soon be so; you have ever consulted its Interest, it is grateful to you, and of its Individuals, none more so than,

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and Masters of Bitterness only, they would that the Prince is only for the Power of Law, and give Occasion to Law, My Lord, to not much less answer you. Yet, my Lord, all who fill themselves with Fumes are hot of this Stamp, the G/assally are more moderate, their Silence is confined an Approbation of the Violence of the Few. I cannot avoid mentioning one, of noted Abilities, who being urged, as a Person aggrieved, to visit the Marquis, very generously said, that he could not think himself aggrieved, that his Majesty had given him a profitable Employment, and had thought fit to return it, that he was grateful for what he had received, and could not complain that it was taken away. 35 Ed. 6. My Lord, was generous and manly; and were all truly grateful for what they have received from his Majesty's Goodness, his Deputy would be entitled as a Man to Civility; but the Humours of some Men are sharp and fierce, they delight in Bitterness and Reviling, and seem to adopt as a Maxim, Bitterness Communes faster, which he.

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